

The Times.

THE TIMES COMPANY.

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RICHMOND, VA.

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1901.

A DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM.

The Hon. David Bennett Hill recently addressed a letter to the General Assembly of Alabama, conveying his thanks for the joint resolution requesting him to address the Legislature, and expressing his regret at being unable to do so. Mr. Hill told his friends in Alabama that it was the duty of him and them as patriots and Democrats to strengthen the party organization, to unite all elements of opposition to radicalism, to organize for future contests upon right lines so as to make national victory again possible, to avoid recriminations and to subordinate all selfish and personal considerations in the exhibition of a widespread national and party patriotism.

"We should stand as a solid phalanx," he went on, "in favor of a strict construction of the Federal Constitution; for the preservation of the reserved rights of the States; for the maintenance of the constitutional currency of our fathers; for a system of public taxation imposed for public purposes only; for economy in all public expenditures and for the supremacy of the Constitution, with all its guarantees, over every portion of our national jurisdiction; and we should resist by every honorable means in our power the Republican efforts to fasten upon our country the evils of militarism, the wrongs involved in the diversion of public moneys in the shape of congressional subsidies, the tendencies toward centralization of power and the substitution of imperialistic ideas for the plain and simple theories of Democratic government. Upon all these issues the Democratic party is right, and sooner or later the right will surely prevail."

What a splendid Democratic platform that would make! If the next National Democratic Convention adopted a platform with these terse declarations of Mr. Hill as the basis, and then nominate Mr. Hill for the presidency, victory will be a foregone conclusion. The Republicans have had a long lease of power. The longer they stay in office the more distasteful do they become to the great Democracy of the country, and by the time that another presidential year comes around the Democrats will be ready for a change.

But Democrats do not like Populism any better than they like Republicanism. Indeed, many Democrats are more afraid of Populism than they are of Republicanism, because they have tried Republicanism and know that it is not disastrous to the business interests of the country, while Populism is an untold quantity, threatening to overthrow all our business institutions. But if the convention will only adopt a good Democratic platform, such as Mr. Hill has outlined, and nominate Mr. Hill, or some Democrat like him, Democrats from all over the country will rise up as one man to support the platform and the ticket and the party will score the greatest triumph of its history.

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH KANSAS?

"I consider Carrie Nation a female John Brown of a second emancipation," said the Rev. Dr. H. M. Wharton the other day at a meeting of the Anti-Liquor and Anti-Cigarette Society of Philadelphia.

Whether or not this was an attempt to glorify Mrs. Nation or to ridicule her by likening her to John Brown, we do not know. Dr. Wharton is a Southern man, and we can hardly believe that with all his eccentricities and sensationalism he is capable of paying tribute, even in a Northern city, to John Brown. It is altogether proper, however, to put these two-

John Brown and Carrie Nation—in the same class, for they are two of a kind. John Brown's fanaticism ran towards slavery, and Mrs. Nation's fanaticism runs towards saloons. But they are products of the same soil and they are of the same sort. Kansas is the great State of freaks and has produced more freaks to the square inch than any State in the Union. The State of Kansas was born in a storm. The people who settled it sowed the wind and subsequent generations have been reaping the whirlwind from year to year. Kansas is subject to climatic extremes. Sometimes the weather is delightful, but during a pleasant spell in winter, without any warning whatever, a blizzard will sweep across the plains and the next day the Ice King will be ruling supreme. In summer delightful breezes may be playing in the whiskers of the statesmen without causing a single unnumbered hair to fall to the ground, yet all of a sudden the hot winds from the South will begin to blow, and blow and keep on blowing from day to day until the corn, which but yesterday was green and beautiful, with silky tassels on every ear as long as the beard of the prophets of Populism, is parched and withered and burnt to a crisp. Kansas is a storm-centre and the State of Kansas was born in a storm of politics.

The history of Kansas from 1854 to 1891 is unique. There is nothing like it in the annals of the nation. Such rioting and revolution and political trickery were never known in any other State. John Brown helped to make the history of that time and schooled himself for the part which he afterwards played in the history of the nation. Then came Simpson, the seckless; Peffer, the bearded man; Ingalls, the statesman out of a job; Mrs. Lease and Mrs. Nation, and finally Congressman Tiddiey, who introduced a bill to give to every man in the country a Government job at \$4 a day. They are all Kansas freaks, differing in the stamp of their fanaticism, but being of the same family and having the same general characteristics. Some are born in the blizzard, some are born while the hot winds are blowing, and some are born between seasons, but they are all the same sort of freaks. The Kansas variety is unique. Dr. Wharton is right in linking the name of Carrie Nation with that of John Brown. Par noble fratrum, if Mrs. Nation will pardon the liberty we take with her sex.

HASTY LEGISLATION.

The newspapers of Richmond have shown that during the extra session of the Legislature just closed, a number of bills giving wide powers to private corporations were rushed through without having been printed or considered in committee, and of whose character the members, generally speaking, knew little or nothing.

This sort of thing is getting to be too common in the Virginia Legislature and some vigorous action should be taken to put a stop to it. No bill, except under the most urgent circumstances, should be taken up and passed without having run the gauntlet of the committee rooms, and no new bills should be introduced within ten days or two weeks of final adjournment. Law-making is a serious business and it is not to be entered into hastily and unadvisedly. Every bill introduced should be carefully studied, line by line, by the proper committees before ever it is passed, and members should insist upon it that this course be taken before voting on any measure.

Too often these mischievous bills are rushed through under the pretext of being "purely local measures." At the regular session of the Legislature last winter, such a bill was put through without reference to committee, but somebody discovered the character of it, quite by accident, however, and upon further examination it was found that the bill permitted a corporation to run a gambling institution, in defiance of the anti-gambling law of the State.

When the regular session meets next winter, it is to be hoped that steps will be taken in advance to prevent a repetition of this practice.

LIGHT AT LAST.

Some time ago—only a few months ago, indeed—the Indianapolis News contained an editorial article in which the editor undertook to lecture the Southern people on the subject of lynching. But the darkness of the editor has been lightened by a recent incident. A white woman was assaulted by a negro man and the editor of the News makes this reference to the outrage:

"People in this neighborhood ought to have a better understanding at least of, if not more sympathy with, the temper of our Southern brethren when the 'best' people of a community turn out and Lynch a negro for assault. When a frail and innocent young woman is seized by a burly, black brute and subjected to the horrible treatment suffered by Miss Darter, the blood of every decent man in the neighborhood is stirred to indignation, and a sure, unvarying impulse. We are utterly and always opposed to summary justice by the mob, even of 'best' people. But we can now better understand how strong the temptation thereto must be, when we are told that no possible effort was left untried to discover the criminal and bring him to punishment. The county or the State might well offer a large reward for his apprehension."

The Northern people never understand this phase of the negro question until they are brought face to face with it. In the Times of yesterday was the report of the lynching of a negro brute at Terre Haute, Ind., for assaulting a white woman. The mob broke the jail open, took the prisoner out and hung him, after which they cut the body down and burned it.

Human nature is much the same the world over. Blood is thicker than water, and when negro men assault white women, they will be summarily dealt with, whether the assault be

committed in Georgia, in Virginia, in New York or in Indiana.

An anti-trust club of five hundred smokers has been formed at New Bedford, each member being pledged not to use tobacco made by the tobacco trust. Now, if all the anti-trust people in the United States will imitate the example of this New Bedford club the trust question will soon be solved, for the trusts will have to shut up shop and go out of business. But the trouble is that these anti-trust people are among the best friends that the trusts have, because they consume the goods which the trusts make. There are many people who denounce the trusts on the streets and yet go right into the stores and buy the goods which the trusts make when they could just as well buy goods which are made by others. The reason for all this is very plain. The best and cheapest goods on the market are those made by the trusts, and so long as that continues the consumers are going to buy trust-made goods.

In commenting several days ago on the expulsion of a professor from Leland Stanford University for talking too freely, we said that if any teacher in the public schools of Richmond should express his views too freely on the subject of politics or a religious doctrine he would very soon find himself without an occupation. The New York Tribune in an article yesterday discusses the same subject in much the same way.

"Suppose," says our contemporary, "that a professor in the Princeton Theological Seminary should see fit to instruct his classes that God is a mere 'stream of tendency' that there is no assurance of a future life, and that in any case the theory of a divine atonement for human faults is absurd. Would the professor asserting such propositions and urging his pupils to accept them be dismissed, with or without the formality of a forced resignation? Or would he be retained and honored as a noble example of freedom of teaching at Princeton?"

Free speech is all right, but every man must have some discretion in exercising the right of free speech.

The Tri-State Medical Association has made no mistake in electing Dr. John N. Upshur, of Richmond, president. Dr. Upshur is an able and conscientious physician of the old school, consecrated to the profession, and the arch enemy of quacks and quackery. The affairs of the association will be quite safe in his hands and its every interest protected.

The New York Sun says: "A remarkable law passed by the Virginia Assembly lays a State tax of \$500 on peddlers, but allows farmers and truckers to hawk their own produce. The constitutionality of the law is to be tested, and there can be little doubt of the decision of the court. The Southern and Western Legislatures are especially fond of this sort of law. Probably they don't care whether the statute will hold water or not. They want the 'farmer vote,' and they are not to blame for the 'tyranny' of the courts."

Our objection to all such laws is that through them the taxing power is employed for some purposes other than to raise revenue. We do not believe in using the taxing power as a police regulation, or for any other purpose than to raise revenues needed by government for legitimate expenses, and hence we are opposed to tariff for protection and the prohibitory tax on State bank issues.

CURRENT TOPICS.

The historian of the Chicago Chronicle gets in a word that is timely:

With the first mutterings of tariff war by combined Europe against the United States here comes that grand old statistician, Colonel Robert P. Porter, his coat-tails streaming in the wind and his hair standing on end, shouting to the Administration for Herbert's sake to make concessions to the enemy and to negotiate reciprocity treaties wherever possible. Yet, if any one man has been especially prominent in bringing about the present situation Colonel Porter is the man. He led a professional tariff whooper for a quarter of a century—a preacher of the doctrine that national salvation lay in high tariffs alone. If now he recants and advises surrender the tariffs are indeed in a bad way.

And now it is discovered by the Sidney (N. S. W.) Times that no English blood flows in the veins of Edward VII., descendant of Edward the Confessor, and recently irreverently dubbed by an American parapsychist, "the great enemy of the British Empire."

The Australian analyst proceeds to vivisection the heir apparent and present occupant of the throne "at once, as if it were Professor William King were Mr. Benham's liver, and arrives at the following result of its investigations in his constituent hereditary atoms:

Scotch, two parts; Scandinavian, two parts; German, one thousand and twenty parts.

Now we know the chemical composition of the English potentate, "upon whose head," as Bob Ingersoll put it, "has been poured the divine petroleum; the kerosene of authority." The Dutch have taken England.

A writer in the current number of Ansie's Magazine discusses the origin of the term "yellow journalism," now world-wide in use. Among newspaper-men he finds some controversy on the subject, but the consensus of opinion is that the term was first used by the managing editor of the Evening Journal, suggesting to Mr. Outcault, the artist, that he introduce in the Sunday World one of Phil May's gutter-snipe sketches from a London publication he lay the throat was soon to be touched. Brisbane was then on the Sunday World, and that paper immediately became popular for its comic supplement containing Outcault's "Kid pictures." On the Sunday that New York contained Li Hung Chang Mr. Outcault brought out his tough boy, who had always worn a sort of nightgown in vivid yellow, with the words issuing from his mouth: "Gee, I got a yellow shirt, too!" Thereafter the comic prodigy was kept in the stable.

What had been a passing thought and fancy of Mr. Brisbane now developed into a valuable asset to the business office of the World. Accordingly, when Mr. Hearst bought both Mr. Brisbane and Mr. Outcault, and they came with them to the Journal their yellow kid, bitterness reigned on Park Row. The damage suit for \$50,000 which the World brought against the Journal was never forced to a issue, owing to the terms which were followed our declaration of war against

Spain. It was near the end of the war when newspaper men say, the term yellow journalism emerged from the colloquial mint, and the credit for its coinage is ascribed variously to Richard Harding Davis and Peter E. Dunne (Mr. Dooley). Of Mr. Davis it is said that upon arriving in New York, after having had some disagreement with Mr. Hearst, he remarked savagely to some correspondents: "Well, I'm done with yellow journalism." Mr. Dunne's friends insist that he first used the term in one of his "Dooley" articles, and neither of these gentlemen has as yet succeeded in convincing the other of his unworthiness of the claim.

AFTERMATH.

With the ice gone and other signs of spring about us, and especially with a heavy fog in London, the chapelle can halimast his trousers again.

The gentleman who stole a freight train in Illinois the other day came to grief. His methods are crude; he should have grabbed the whole road and then he would have been respected by all.

It is nip and tuck, says an exchange, whether the Boers can destroy British bridges in South Africa faster than American contractors erect them; and as long as the British can pay for the game we are willing to play it.

Under the Wisconsin law for the regulation of the lobby, in operation now for the first time, thirty-seven "legislative counsel" and two "legislative agents" have registered.

An Atlanta automobile gently encroached upon the domain of the strenuous end of a Georgia mule. The automobile is in the repair shop, the chauffeur is in the hospital and the gentle Georgia mule smiles softly as he contemplates the frailty and vanity of man's proudest mechanical triumphs.

The mother-in-law joke receives a solar plexus jolt in a story that comes from Paris. M. Sauvage, whose wife is eighteen years old and charming, found her mother so much more beautiful and soulful from his point of view, that he fell madly in love with her. The wife brought suit for divorce, and the husband prayed the court to grant it, so that he might become the husband of his mother-in-law. Verily, truth is often stranger than fiction.

At Guilford, England, the quaint custom of throwing dice for the "maids' money" was observed recently. A sum was invested by a mayor of the borough in the seventeenth century, from which the annual sum of £100 is derived, and the good people who have been in the same service for over two years. There were two applicants. The prize was won by Martha Shingle, who threw 7. The same dice-box has been used for sixty years.

They have a militant way of collecting city taxes in Omaha. The treasurer of that city has announced that on a certain day he will start out with a force of deputies and furniture vans, and after demanding payment of claims of delinquents, he will proceed to serve warrants and seize personal property to satisfy the assessment claims. He will doubtless have a rough time of it before he gets through.

To find the new star, first look at Capella, which is the brightest star close to the zenith, in the early evenings at present. Then look directly West. A triangle of ordinary stars will be found with the new Nova Persei directly in the middle. It is fully as bright as Capella, and is about twice as far from the North Star as from Capella. Young ladies bending their heads back to look at the zenith should be properly surprised.

PERSONAL AND CRITICAL.

Teddy Roosevelt will descend upon Washington the end of the week, and the Senate is bracing up for a strenuous life.

We are authorized to denounce as untrue the rumor that Pettigrew and Lentz will leave for Aquinaldo's bosom on March 4th, at 12 o'clock, noon.

Alfred Harmsworth avers that King Edward would have made a good newspaper man; and, doubtless Mr. Harmsworth would have made a good tabloid King.

Instead of trying to block Mr. Morgan's Erie reorganization game, Mr. Pine Coffin should have sought to become a director of the National Casket Company.

The Courier Journal suggests that the lady who has been making things so lively with saloons in Kansas is what Mr. Dooley might term the in-carriage-note of temperance reform.

When Duluth gets that projected water-power canal, 50 miles long, Proctor Knott's eloquent description may at last be realized.

Considering the nature of the proceedings of the D. A. K. Convention in Washington last week, Mr. Donald McLean's charge that the association is being run as an auxiliary to the United States Senate is indeed appalling.

George Washington shipped brandy from the decanter from which the guests at the supper given in the Livingston-Avenue Baptist Church, in New Brunswick, N. J., drank lemonade on his birthday. Mr. George says such "soft stuff" hardly filled the bill.

When ex-Congressman Culberson, of Texas, was in Detroit the other day he caught a bad cold.

"If I were at home," he said, "my wife would get out a piece of flannel and my mother-in-law—who is an angel—would make me a horrible mixture of vinegar, onion, suet and mullein. I would be put to bed, and when I woke up I would be well. It is a horrible mixture, but I wish I was at home."

Ex-Senator William M. Evans is no longer the champion framer of long sentences. He frequently made a record of 600 words, but has been far outdone by Rastus S. Ransom, a New York lawyer, who, in a will case a few days ago put a hypothetical question, 4,000 words, in length. Boiled down all this meant: "I beseech the testimony to be true, was the same witness when she made her will?" It took just thirty minutes to ask the question.

THIEVES AND HOUSEBREAKERS.

A Busy Session of Mecklenburg County Court.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)
BOYDTON, Va., Feb. 27.—The County Court of Mecklenburg, Va., engaged the most of last week in the trial of horse thieves, house-breakers and persons charged with less offenses, and no less than seven (7) men, all negroes, were convicted and sent to the penitentiary for terms varying from one to fifteen years. The aggregate terms for which

COLDS



I regard my COLICURE as more valuable than a life insurance policy. It not only cures colds in the head, colds in the lungs, colds in the bones, but it wards off dangerous diseases such as grippé, diphtheria, pneumonia, and consumption.—MUNYON.

Munyon's Rheumatism Cure seldom fails to relieve in one to three hours, and cures in a few days. Munyon's Dyspepsia Cure positively cures all forms of indigestion and stomach trouble. Munyon's Cough Cure stops coughs, night sweats, all dry cures and quickly heals the lungs. Munyon's Kidney Cure quickly cures pains in the back, loins or groins, and all forms of kidney disease. Munyon's Urinary tract cures all urinary tract ailments. All the cures are 25 cents, at any drug store. Munyon's Guide to Health should be in the hands of every mother. It will help them to know the symptoms of every disease and tell them the proper treatment. Sent free to any address. Munyon, New York and Philadelphia.

MUNYON'S INHALER CURE CATARRH.

These men are to serve in the penitentiary is twenty-nine years. This is the largest number of men I have ever known to be convicted of felonies at one term of court, and indeed I do not believe as many were ever convicted at one term of court since the county was organized, now over one hundred and twenty-five years ago. At the conclusion of the trial, Judge Homes remarked that it was very bad, as scarce a laborer was in Mecklenburg, to lose seven men at one time, but he added, such labor as this is worth nothing to the county.

The Boydton District School Board has made the order directing the schools of the district to be run six, instead of five months.

The Boydton white school opened today after having been closed for the past ten days, owing to the sickness of Rev. E. L. Baptist, the principal, who has been down with the grip.

The condition of Mr. E. W. Overby, cashier of the Bank of Mecklenburg, is very serious and his friends are extremely apprehensive about him.

Mr. Overby, who has been suffering since Christmas holidays, while out hunting his horse fell and broke his leg. Ever since that time Mr. Overby has been a great sufferer, but recently other and more serious troubles have arisen and in his weak and nervous condition it is hard for him to resist these inroads made upon his constitution.

The friends and relatives of Bishop Whittle in Mecklenburg are very much gratified to learn of his improving health. The bishop is a native of Mecklenburg and is affectionately remembered here.

A few of the citizens of Boydton are getting ice to-day, which is about two weeks earlier than usual.

Mrs. Alice E. Finch has gone on a visit to her friend, Miss Bessie Lewis, of Brunswick, to be gone about a week. The Rev. W. H. Edwards, the president of the Episcopal Church, preached here in the Methodist Church last night.

PYRITES FOUND.

Reported Discovery Near Barboursville—A Goat Farm.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)
GORDONSVILLE, Va., Feb. 27.—Rev. A. B. Mitchell, of the Episcopal Church, who has been at work since June last at Mineral City, has been transferred by Bishop Gibson to West Point, Va., where he will take charge of West Point Church, and St. David's near there.

Some excitement has been created in the neighborhood of Barboursville, in Orange county, by the supposed discovery of sulphur pyrites mines, about three miles north of that place. The report has not been confirmed.

Mr. L. M. Newman and wife, who have been in attendance upon the Mardi Gras, returned home on Monday. Mr. Walter G. Newman, the owner of Mt. Athos, who has been "doing" South America, has also returned.

Mr. George McD. Blake, who has been quite prominent in politics, is in Richmond, has quit merchandising, which he at first engaged in in Louisa county, and has recently started a goat farm, which he is managing with marked success.

Capt. Boyd Smith, who recently purchased the Smith mines at Mineral, in Louisa county, is out again after a serious attack of grip.

MURDER TRIAL IN ORANGE.

Hawkins Acquitted of Charge of Killing His Wife.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)
FREDRICKSBURG, Va., Feb. 27.—The trial of Benjamin J. Hawkins, charged with killing his wife, Ann E. Hawkins, several months ago, commenced in Orange County Court yesterday and was concluded to-day. The jury, after being out a short time, brought in a verdict of acquittal, which seems to meet with approval on account of extenuating circumstances.

Bell-Hoffman.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)
WINCHESTER, Va., Feb. 27.—Miss Josie May Hoffman, of Edinburg, Va., and Mr. Joseph Bell, of this city, were married at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Hoffman this afternoon. Rev. D. H. Rhodes, of Staunton, officiated.

Mr. Thomas A. Gilmer, a former resident of Richmond, now a citizen of Elk Ridge, Md., is visiting relatives in this city.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS

Positively cured by these Little Pills.

They also relieve Distress from Dyspepsia, indigestion and Too Hearty Eating. A perfect remedy for Dizziness, Nausea, Troubles, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Coated Tongue, Pain in the Side, TORPID LIVER. They regulate the Bowels. Purely Vegetable. Small Pill. Small Dose. Small Price.

FRESH GOSSIP

HERE ON GOTHAM

New Head of Police Promises Unrelenting War On Vice.

LIFE-STRUGGLE ON FIRE-ESCAPE

Detective Finally Succeeded in Getting Upper Hand of Burglar Pool-Room

Queen Released—An Error Corrected.

NEW YORK, Feb. 27.—Commissioner Murphy promises to be unrelenting in his war on gambling and all other kinds of vice in New York city. He has issued the following order to his captains:

"To the commanders of all districts and precincts in the Borough of Manhattan.—Commanding officers of precincts are hereby ordered to report to me in writing with the returns of the number of saloons, the names of all proprietors or keepers of gambling houses, poolrooms and other places in which the law is habitually violated within their precincts, together with the character of the business which is carried on and the number and street of the houses." MICHAEL C. MURPHY.

STRUGGLE FOR LIFE.

Detective Holahan had a struggle for his life on the narrow platform of a fourth floor fire escape, at No. 13 East 113th Street, yesterday before he captured Meyer alias "Red" Davis, a burglar. Davis tried to escape, but the detective over the iron railing, but Holahan got a tight grip on the man, and managed to hold on until he got one arm free. Then he managed to get at his revolver and beat Davis into submission with the butt.

For several days Davis has been working the neighborhood, hanging clothes lines. Ever since he was first seen there robberies have been reported to the police from the houses visited.

The burglar took to his heels upon seeing the detective, but after a desperate struggle was captured on a fire escape. The doctor said he was in danger of dying. The burglar was taken to the Magistrate Crane held him for examination.

Senator Platt's friends declare that between now and Friday, when the Legislature is to adjourn to attend the inauguration ceremonies in Washington.

The constabulary bill will be passed on Tuesday, and will be passed on Tuesday.

BARKER RELEASED.

Thomas G. Barker, who shot the Rev. John Keller, at Arlington, on February 24, was released from the House of Correction yesterday afternoon. His bail in \$5,000 was given by John J. Johnson, of Robert Molloy, of No. 127 North Sixteenth Street, East Orange; George Sumner, of Locust Avenue, Arlington; and Robert G. Victor, of Kearney Avenue, Arlington.

Mr. Barker's decision to admit Barker to bail was reached on the receipt of a certificate from Drs. Exton and Strasser, the Rev. Mr. Keller's physicians, stating that the minister was in no danger of dying. The doctor said that the sight of the right eye was destroyed, but the patient could see with the left.

AN ERROR CORRECTED.
By an unfortunate error in this correspondence, the expulsion of a young woman from Christ Church, Elizabeth, on last Sunday, the name of the young woman was given as Miss Arnold, whereas it should have been Miss Munger, who is quite another person from Miss Arnold.

POOL-ROOM QUEEN RELEASED.

Grace Ryan, sometimes known as Grace McLeod, but more recently as Gusie McLeod, was released from the House of Correction yesterday before Recorder Goff and a jury, on a charge of conducting a pool-room at No. 24 Eighth Avenue. Since her arrest, while she was at liberty on bail, she appeared in a vaudeville theatre, billed as the "Pool-room Queen." The announcement that she was the only woman ever indicted in this State for conducting an establishment for betting on horse races brought a big crowd of curious persons to the Criminal Court Building yesterday. Quite a number of theatrical people were there. Many choruses from the city theatres managed to get in, and the court-room was a scene of merriment. The judge and jury, instructed by Recorder Goff, brought in a verdict of acquittal.

Lawyer Patrick, who is accused of forging the name of Millionaire Rice to checks for \$165,000 and against whom there is a suspicion of causing the old man's death, came near getting out of the Tombs yesterday, but was held by Attorney Philbin, however, heard of it and blocked the game.

FIRE IN FREDERICK.

Hundreds Are Out Fighting Flames Which Spread Rapidly.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)
WINCHESTER, Va., Feb. 27.—Fire this afternoon totally destroyed the residence of the firm of Edward Steele, situated two miles west of Middletown, this county, together with the barn and contents and other out-buildings.

The origin is unknown. The farm was tenanted by Arthur Steele, who lost all his valuable effects. The total loss is \$2,000, with no insurance.

The flames communicated to a belt of woods nearby and to-night hundreds of people are fighting the fire, which is spreading rapidly.

A PASTOR RESIGNS.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)
FREDRICKSBURG, Va., Feb. 27.—Rev. E. M. Dowley, who has served as pastor of the Baptist Church at Bowling Green, and of Zion Baptist Church, in Caroline county, for several years, has resigned the pastorate of both churches, his resignation to take effect the last day of April next. The action was a surprise.

Mr. C. C. Baker, of Westmoreland county, is collecting portraits of distinguished men who have served that county in the past as judges, clerks, etc., with the view of adorning the walls of the new court-house at Bowling Green, and at the same time of perpetuating the memory of faithful officials. It is thought the portraits will be ready for unveiling with appropriate ceremonies by the May term of court.

There is quite a rivalry in Stafford